

Commencement Information Specifically for Parents/Guests

- **Ticketing Process:**
 - Tickets will be sent to your student's WPI email address by Tuesday, August 3. Please connect with your student to receive your ticket.
 - Due to space limitations, there are no extra tickets available. We are only able to accommodate one individual per seat.
 - All guests need a valid ticket including children of any age (including infants).
 - Parents/guests without tickets are not permitted on campus.
- **Guest Arrival & Seating: (7:00 am – 8:30 am only)**
 - All parents/guests must be seated by 8:30 am, to not interfere with the student Processional entering the Quad area.
 - Parents/guests who need mobility assistance should use the drop-off area located behind the Morgan Residence Hall (on Institute Road).
 - The Park Avenue Garage at 151 Salisbury Street holds 500+ vehicles. Other parking lots are available as space permits.
 - Students report directly to the Fountain/Project Center/CDC front entrance in their Commencement regalia for check-in (8:00 am – 8:30 am).
 - The Processional begins at approximately 8:35 am.
- **Ticket Scanning at the Ceremony:**
 - Tickets are scanned at the two main entrances to the Quad. Each ticket is barcoded and, once scanned, cannot be reused.
 - Seating is first-come, first-seated. Seats may not be reserved before 7:00 am.
 - Seats are intentionally spaced for social distancing. Please do not move seats. Strollers are not permitted on the Quad.
 - Each ticketholder will receive a wristband that allows entry to Quad seating, as well as entrance to the Post-Commencement BBQ.
- **Expectations for Quad Area Seating/Being on Campus:**
 - Parents/guests are not permitted on campus without a valid ticket.
 - For everyone's safety and welfare, parents/guests are asked to not leave their seats except to use the restrooms.
 - Restrooms are located in Harrington Auditorium and the Recreation Center, adjacent to the Quad.
 - Seating on the Quad is uncovered (no tent); please plan accordingly for weather.
 - Masks are optional for fully vaccinated students and guests. Unvaccinated individuals must wear a mask at all times.
 - Anyone traveling must be attentive to and follow CDC Guidelines:
 - International Travel: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/international-travel-during-covid19.html>
 - Domestic Travel: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/travel-during-covid19.html>

- **The Commencement Ceremony:**
 - We anticipate the Ceremony will last approximately three hours.
 - Parents/guests should remain seated during the entire ceremony.
 - A professional digital photograph will be taken of each student on stage receiving their diploma, as well as in a Stage Right greenery area. (These photos will be provided to the student free of charge in September via e-mail.)
- **After the Ceremony Concludes:**
 - We ask that parents/guests remain in their seats until the Recessional exits the area.
 - The Campus BBQ will begin as soon as the ceremony ends. Your wristband that you received as you entered the Quad seating area is your admission to the BBQ.
 - Due to the large number of students and guests, please help us manage the BBQ process as follows:
 - **Graduate Students and Guests:** Please head to the Campus Center patio to pick up food, and then to the lower Higgins House lawn for sit-down dining.
 - **Undergraduate Students and Guests:** Please visit with friends/take photos around campus for a short time, and then head to the Campus Center Patio to pick up food, and then to the lower Higgins House lawn for sit-down dining.

Thank you for joining us to celebrate our students' wonderful achievements, and for helping us create and maintain a safe environment for our campus ceremonies.

Sincerely,

The WPI Commencement Committee